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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/163,259 | 09/29/1998 | FRANK W. ADAMS | 4167-13 | 9788 |
| 26584 | 7590 | 09/14/2010 | EXAMINER | |
| OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY | | | KRUER, STEFAN | |
| INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT | | | | |
| 10 FARM SPRINGS | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| FARMINGTON, CT 06032 | | | 3654 | |
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| | | | 09/14/2010 | PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/163,259 | ADAMS ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Stefan Kruer | 3654 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6 July 2010.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1 - 9, 14, 20 - 23 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10 - 13 and 15 - 18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1 - 9, 14, 20 - 23 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 1998 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show "... the drive sheave having an outside dimension ... that is less than or equal to the support column dimension in the direction" as recited in **Claim 1**, commencing in its penultimate line, yet not finding support in the specification or the drawings. The drawings depict the traction sheave as having an outer dimension of equal or slightly greater than the support column dimension in the direction as understood.

Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and

informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1 – 6, 8 and 20 - 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claim 1 recites in the penultimate line as noted in the objections to the drawings above, "... the drive sheave having an outside dimension ... that is less than or equal to the support column dimension in the direction" whereby applicant's specification does not review a relationship of an outer dimension of the traction sheave with a dimension of a support column, other than the ability of reducing the diameter of the traction sheave due to the usage of flat belts as known in the art.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 – 6, 8 and 20 - 23 would be allowable if **Claim 1** is rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st paragraph, as well as overcoming the objections to the drawings, as set forth in this Office action.

Furthermore, **Claims 7 and 9**, previously withdrawn from consideration under 37 CFR 1.142, would be rejoined, wherein the restriction requirement as set forth in the Office action mailed on 16 July 1999 with respect to said claims would be withdrawn. In view of the withdrawal of the restriction requirement as to the rejoined inventions, applicant(s) are advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Once the restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Claims 10 – 13 and 15 – 18 would remain withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 10 and 15, supported by Figures 4 and 6, respectively, of applicant's disclosure are incompatible with respect to the recitation "... the drive sheave, which has an axis of rotation parallel to the sidewall..." of **Claim 1**; therefore, **Claim 1** is no longer being generic to all the species.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 6 July 2010 have been fully considered but they are not fully persuasive.

As reviewed above, should the objections to the drawings and the commensurate rejection of **Claim 1** under U.S.C. 112, 1st paragraph, be overcome, the claim as well as the previously withdrawn **Claims 7 and 9** would be allowable; however, **Claims 10 - 13 and 15 – 18** are drawn to a species unique to the species of **Claim 1** whereby **Claim 1** is no longer generic to all species.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Matsui (JP 06345367 A) is cited for reference of an elevator having a drive sheave along a sidewall of an elevator, wherein said sheave has an axis of rotation parallel to said sidewall and a rope positioned from a drive motor along the sidewall and the axis of rotation, as well as first and second support columns located on opposite sides of a hoistway relative to each other, said support columns extending vertically from a bottom portion to a top portion of the hoistway alongside the elevator car and the sidewall each of the support columns having a dimension in a direction from the sidewall toward and alongside the elevator car and perpendicular to the axis of rotation, the drive sheave having an outside dimension in the direction that is approximately equal to the support column dimension in the direction.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stefan Kruer whose telephone number is 571.272.5913. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Mansen, can be reached on 571.272.6608. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Michael R Mansen/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3654

/SHK/
Examiner, Art Unit 3654
26 August 2010